



dpr

Introduction

- Importance of Medical Information:
 - Medical information does not necessarily mean medical records. Information means all data that may be related to the illness or injury.
 - Information may be gathered through an interview of the people involved or anyone who knows of the event.

1/30/2002 Episode 2

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Data Needed for Documentation

- Interviews:
 - Interview of person involved
 - Interview of employer, foreman, supervisor or any individual who knows of the incident

1/30/2002 Episode 3

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Data Needed for Documentation

- Types of Symptoms:
- Irritant Symptoms
 - Mostly symptoms affecting the eye and skin causing redness, swelling, itching, tearing.

1/30/2002 Episode 4

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Data Needed for Documentation

- Types of Symptoms:
 - Systemic Symptoms
 - Mostly symptoms affecting the well-being of the person involved.
 - Headache, dizziness, lightheadedness, restlessness, anxiety, vomiting, diarrhea, convulsions, respiratory depression.

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Data Needed for Documentation

- Types of Symptoms:
 - Respiratory symptoms
 - Mostly symptoms affecting the upper respiratory tract
 - Coughing, shortness of breath, nasal irritation, throat irritation.

1/30/2002 Episode 6

Data Needed for Documentation

- Types of Symptoms
 - Allergic Symptoms
 - Symptoms seen in predisposed individuals who have a history of being allergic to chemicals
 - Most of this information is from the individual or from the doctor who knows of the patient's history.

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Data Needed for Documentation

- Relationship of exposure to symptoms
 - How long after exposure did the symptoms develop?
 - How long ago was the application done in the field or structure?
 - What kind of pesticides were loaded into the equipment in question?

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Skin Irritants

- Fungicides - Ziram and all thiocarbamates
 - 1990, 26 cases of dermatitis among pear harvesters in Washington state, entered field 5 days after application.
 - Residue data from manufacturer stated a 9-day half-life for the chemical
 - Reentry interval increased to 14 days
 - Other related chemicals, Maneb and Zineb

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Skin Irritants

- Fungicides - Elemental sulfur
 - Large number of cases in California imply sulfur is a potent skin irritant
 - Studies revealed elemental sulfur is a strong experimental allergen
 - Study on California nursery workers revealed several apparent allergic reactions to 1% elemental sulfur

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Episode

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1+ reaction to sulfur - Subject 43 in California nursery study - total 5 positive reactions to sulfur among 43 subjects - + reactions correlated with application work

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• Apparent irritant reaction after sweaty forearm contaminated with mixture of sulfur & malathion
CDPR archive

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Episode

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dpr Skin Irritants

- Fungicides
 - Benomyl
 - Studies have shown benomyl to be a potent experimental allergen
 - Several cases in a nursery implicated benomyl to cause an allergic contact dermatitis

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dpr Skin Irritants

- Other Fungicides:
 - Captan
 - Chlorothalonil
 - Ethoxyquin

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dpr Skin Irritants

- Insecticides and Miticides
 - Chlorpyrifos
 - From 1982-1983, 25 cases of dermatitis were attributed to exposure to chlorpyrifos
 - Three cases were the most likely to have been caused by exposure
 - Published literature does not contain reports of allergic reaction to chlorpyrifos

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dpr Skin Irritants

- Insecticides and Miticides
 - Diazinon
 - No documented reports of contact allergy to diazinon
 - Has been reported to have moderate capacity as a skin irritant

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dpr Skin Irritants

- Insecticides and Miticides
 - Carbaryl
 - Metam-sodium
 - Propargite
 - extensive experimental work with both animals and humans demonstrated propargite to be a potent dermal irritant
 - several outbreaks of dermatitis occurred in California due to mixing and loading and foliar residue

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- Post inflammatory hypo-pigmentation second degree burn in an orange harvester exposed to Omite®-CR - Photo - Richard Ames

1/30/2002 Episode 18

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Skin Irritants

- Herbicides
 - Paraquat and Diquat
 - experimentally can produce injury by irritation and corrosion of the skin
 - Glyphosate
 - Injury has been caused mostly by formulated product
 - Phenoxy and Urea herbicides
 - 2,4,5-T and 2,4,D

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- Ulcerative facial lesions in Panamanian banana plantation worker - exposure to paraquat

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Episode

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Skin Irritants

- Other Irritants
 - Fumigants
 - Methyl Bromide can cause skin burns and irritation
 - Plant Dermatitis
 - poison oak, cocklebur, mayweed
 - in the nursery industry, primrose, alstromeria, carnations, chrysanthemums, poinsettias

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Severe burn from applying dichloropropene in Kern county worker wearing "huarache" sandals - 1979 CDPR archive - case history enforcement field staff

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Cholinesterase

- Natural enzyme which breaks down the action of acetylcholine (Ach)
 - Ach is a natural chemical involved in transmitting nerve impulses from one fiber to the next
 - Ach controls mostly the parasympathetic system involved in functions of digestion, resting and sleeping state

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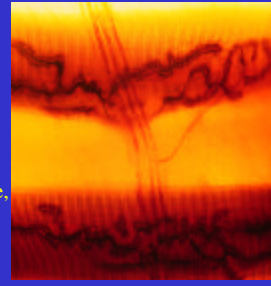
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Photomicrograph

- Photomicrograph of a neuromuscular junction showing axons and nerve terminals. At the center of the image is an intramuscular nerve, which branches to innervate the muscle fibers

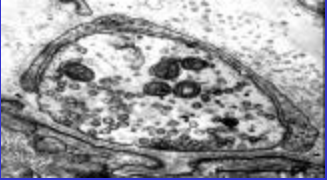


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dpr **Electron Micrograph**

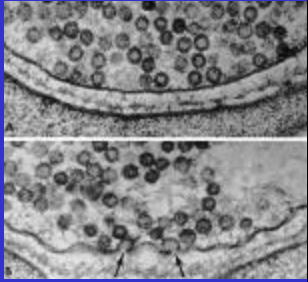


- Electron micrograph of a cross section through a neuromuscular junction. The nerve terminal lies in a shallow depression on the muscle fiber surface. The muscle fiber is at the bottom of the slide. Inside the nerve terminal are numerous clear vesicles that contain the neurotransmitter acetylcholine

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dpr **Electron Micrograph**

- EM of neuromuscular junctions at rest and after stimulation. Acetylcholine controls mostly the parasympathetic nervous system, involved in functions of digestion, resting and sleeping state.



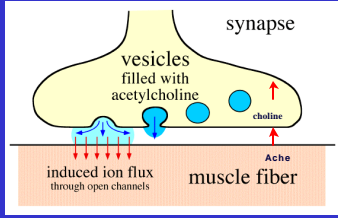
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dpr **Cholinesterase**

- Cholinesterase breaks down Ach to stop its action when it has reached a balance for proper bodily functions
- If cholinesterase is inhibited, Ach is kept active and signs of overstimulation of the parasympathetic nervous system are seen

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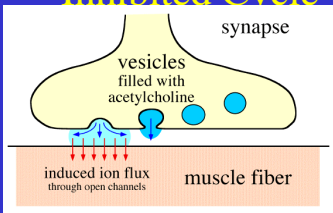
dpr **Acetylcholine - Choline Cycle**



- Acetylcholinesterase, also known as *cholinesterase*, breaks down Ach and is essential to the normal physiology of the nervous system. It keeps the nervous functions of the body in proper balance.

1/30/2002 Episode 28

dpr **Inhibited Cycle**



- If *cholinesterase* is inhibited, Acetylcholine is kept active and signs of overstimulation of the parasympathetic system are seen.

1/30/2002 Episode 29

dpr **Two Types of Cholinesterase**

- Red Blood Cell (RBC) Cholinesterase
 - Found in all normal RBC from their production in the bone marrow
 - Break down acetylcholine
 - Inhibited by organophosphates and n - methyl carbamates
 - Replaced every four months with regeneration of RBCs

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Two Types of Cholinesterase

- Plasma Cholinesterase
 - Produced by the liver and released into the blood stream
 - Has the same function as RBC cholinesterase
 - Any condition that affects the function of the liver may decrease plasma cholinesterase
 - Also inhibited by organophosphates and n-methyl carbamates

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Episode

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Cholinesterase Inhibitors

- Symptoms of Inhibition
 - Pinpoint pupils
 - Excessive secretions (tears, saliva, sweat, bronchial secretions)
 - Slow heart rate (bradycardia)
 - Nausea, cramps, diarrhea
 - Incontinence

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Cholinesterase Inhibitors

- Symptoms of Inhibition
 - Muscular twitching (fasciculation)
 - Weakness
 - Other non-specific symptoms:
 - Headache, dizziness
 - Restlessness, anxiety
 - Agitation, blurred vision
 - Convulsions
 - Coma
 - Respiratory depression

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Episode

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Organophosphates and carbamates

- Compare and contrast
 - Both are cholinesterase inhibitors
 - Both cause the same symptoms
 - Both are treated with atropine
 - Carbamates dissociate from cholinesterase resulting in reactivation
 - Protopam (2-PAM) is recommended only for OP toxicity

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Exercise 1

- Which of these pesticides is a cholinesterase inhibitor?

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Exercise 1-Answers

- Parathion Yes
- Chlorpyrifos Yes
- Phosmet Yes
- Diquat No
- Sevin Yes

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Exercise 1-Answers

- Permethrin No
- Dichlorvos Yes
- Amitraz No
- Systox Yes (demeton)
- Vydate Yes (oxamyl)

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Approximate Toxicity of Cholinesterase Inhibitors

Compound	Oral LD 50 (mg/kg)	Dermal LD50 (mg/kg)
Organophosphates		
Phorate (Thimet)	2 to 4	20 to 30
Disulfoton (Disyston)	2 to 12	6 to 25
Fensulfothion (Dasanit)	2 to 10	3 to 30
Demeton (Systox)	2.6 to 6	8.2 to 14
Mevinphos (Phosdrin)	3 to 12	16 to 33
Parathion	4 to 13	55
Azinphos-methyl	5 to 20	220
Fenamiphos (Nemacur)	8.1 to 9.6	178 to 225
Methyl parathion	9 to 25	300 to 400

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Approximate Toxicity of Cholinesterase Inhibitors

Compound	Oral LD50 (mg/kg)	Dermal LD50 (mg/kg)
Methamidophos	18 to 21	118
Methodathion	44	200
Dichlorvos (DDVP)	56 to 80	75 to 107
Oxydemeton-methyl	65 to 75	350
Propetamphos	119	2300
Phosalone	120	1530
Phosmet	147 to 316	>4640
Dimethoate	215	>100
Diazinon	300 to 400	3600
Naled	430	1110
Acephate	866 to 945	>10,250
Malathion	1000 to 1375	4100

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Approximate Toxicity of Cholinesterase Inhibitors

Compound	Oral LD50 (mg/kg)	Dermal LD50 (mg/kg)
N-Methyl Carbamates		
Aldicarb (Temik)	0.9	>5
Oxamyl (Vydate)	5.4	30
Carbofuran (Furadan)	11	>10,000
Methomyl (Lannate)	17 to 24	
Propoxur (Baygon)	95 to 104	>500
Carbaryl (Sevin)	246 to 283	

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Treatment of Poisoning

- Atropine
 - antagonizes the effect of acetylcholine on receptors
 - used as a treatment for both OP poisoning and carbamate poisoning

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Treatment of Poisoning

- 2-PAM, Protopam
 - works by displacing the OP from the cholinesterase
 - used only as a treatment for OP poisoning NOT carbamate toxicity

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Employer's Responsibility

- 3CCR § 6728
 - An employee who regularly handles OP or carbamate pesticides with the signal word “Danger” or “Warning” must have access to medical care and supervision by a physician
 - All those employees must have RBC and plasma cholinesterase baselines determined before working with the pesticides

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Employer's Responsibility

- Baseline cholinesterase levels must be verified every two years
- New employees are to be tested within 3 days after each 30 day period in which the pesticides are handled. Three tests are required at 30 day intervals.
- Afterwards, testing shall be done every 60 days or as deemed necessary by physician.

1/30/2002

Episode

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Cholinesterase Tests

- Significance of Cholinesterase Tests
 - ChE tests measure the amount of cholinesterase in the blood. If an employee has a recorded baseline level and the exposure tests are below 60% of their baseline, the employee has to be removed from work until their levels are 80% of their baseline

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Episode

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Cholinesterase Tests

- Methods:
 - Two types of ChE tests:
 - Boehringer Mannheim Test kit
 - Sigma Test kit
 - These two tests use different methods to measure the ChE and the units of reporting are different.

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Episode

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Cholinesterase Tests

- Methods:
 - If the baseline levels of an employee are tested using one method in a laboratory, the exposure or follow-up tests should also be tested by the same method and laboratory
 - If not, the results are not comparable to each other and a definitive conclusion as to cholinesterase inhibition cannot be derived.
 - Employers are required to investigate employees' work practices

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Episode

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Investigations with Inadequate Data

- Mechanic working on a truck used previously for loading pesticides
 - Investigator did not take note of what pesticides were loaded in the truck

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Investigations with Inadequate Data

- Illness caused by exposure to paint treated with chlorothalonil to prevent mildew
 - Investigator noted illness was not pesticide related

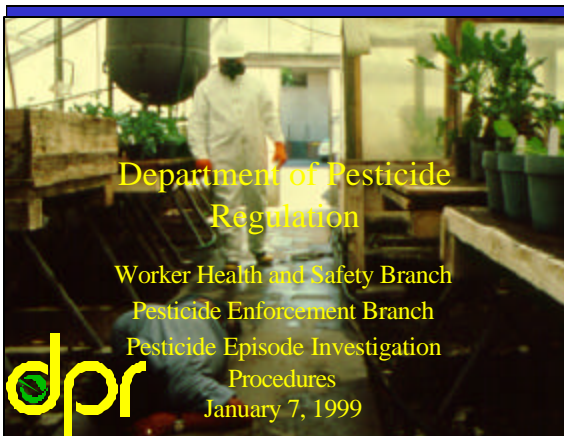
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Investigations with Inadequate Data

- Illness dismissed by the doctor as influenza without knowing what type of pesticides were used by the applicator.
- Worker applied pesticides for 6 days previously.
- Cholinesterase tests were drawn but results were not available.

1/30/2002 Episode 50



Department of Pesticide Regulation
Worker Health and Safety Branch
Pesticide Enforcement Branch
Pesticide Episode Investigation Procedures
January 7, 1999

dpr

dpr

Introduction

- Two Purposes
 - WH&S - find the causes of pesticide episodes and find ways to avoid repeating it
 - Enforcement - Did a violation of laws or regulations occur?

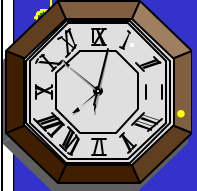
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Changes

- Combined "Receiving the Episode" & "Investigating the Episode"
- Added legal authority
- Timely Submission of Investigations
- Public disclosure of records
- Interview questions

1/30/2002 Episode 53

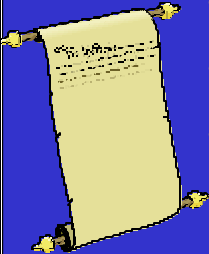


General Comments

- If you hear of an illness do not wait for the PIR or DFR they may never turn up
- Timely investigations are best because incident is fresh in people's minds

1/30/2002 Episode 54

dpr Authority to Investigate Pesticide Episodes



- FAC § 11456(b) Authority to enter
- 3CCR § 6140 Inspection Authority
- B&PC § § 8616.5 and 8616.7 CAC Structural Inspections and Investigations

1/30/2002 Episode 55

dpr Receiving the Episode Report

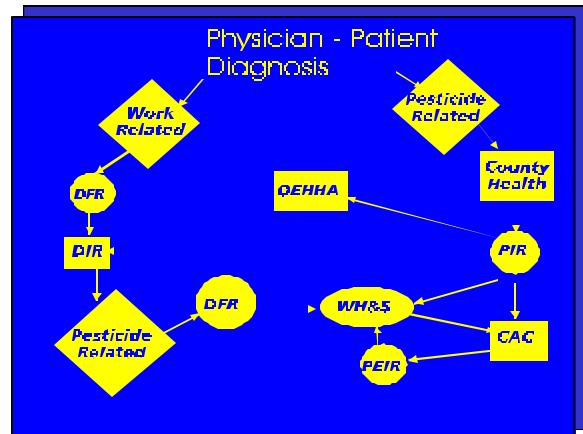
- Pesticide Illness Report (PIR)
- Doctor's First Report (DFR)
- Citizen or employee complaints
- Other (agencies, employers, news media)

1/30/2002 Episode 56

dpr Reporting Requirements

- Health & Safety Code § 105200
 - Doctors report to local health officer - 24 hrs
 - Local health officer
 - Notify commissioner immediately
 - Notify DPR, DIR, OEHHHA - 7 days
 - Pesticide poisoning treatment is not first aid

1/30/2002 Episode 57



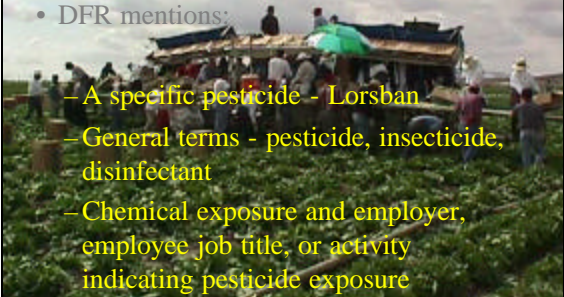
dpr The Next Step

- DPR screens PIRs and DFRs
- PIRs are assigned case numbers unless clearly not pesticide related
- DFRs are assigned case numbers when there is evidence of possible pesticide involvement

1/30/2002 Episode 59

Examples of Pesticide Involvement

- DFR mentions:
 - A specific pesticide - Lorsban
 - General terms - pesticide, insecticide, disinfectant
 - Chemical exposure and employer, employee job title, or activity indicating pesticide exposure



The photograph shows a group of people, including children and adults, standing in a field. Some are holding umbrellas, suggesting it might be raining or they are protecting themselves from the sun. The background shows a line of trees and a fence.

dpr Timely Submission of Episode Investigations



- 120 days
- Inadequate Investigative Reports
- Other information

1/30/2002 Episode 61


dpr Timely Submission of Episode Investigations

- 120 days
 - Start date is WH&S computer log-in date
 - Stop date is date stamp from ENF Regional Office
 - Request for time extension - PR-ENF-097 to your Senior Pesticide Use Specialist

1/30/2002 Episode 62

dpr Timely Submission of Episode Investigations

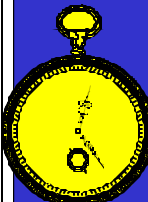
- PR-ENF-097 Request for Time Extension
 - Explain delay
 - Length of time needed to complete investigation



1/30/2002 Episode 63

dpr Inadequate Investigative Reports

- Your Senior will return these for additional information
- Time clock is stopped upon receipt of the PEIR at the Regional Office
- Time clock starts again when the PEIR is returned to CAC



1/30/2002 Episode 64

dpr Inadequate Investigative Reports

- Inadequate investigative reports do not include cases where the investigator has made a reasonable attempt to obtain information.

1/30/2002 Episode 65

dpr Other information

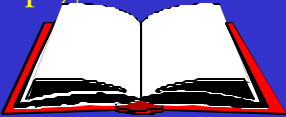
- Transfer of cases from CAC to CAC:
 - Notify WH&S so database record can be updated
- What if an unusually large number of cases are assigned to a CAC within a short time?
 - Handled on a case by case basis.

1/30/2002 Episode 66

d

Exercise 2

- How could you improve this report?
- Work book page 2



1/30/2002 Episode 67

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Exercise 2

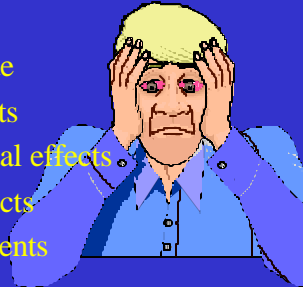
- Investigative report must deal with DFR information
 - Mechanic handled pesticide equipment
 - Specific pesticide was involved
 - A pesticide exposure occurred
- Did mechanic work on pesticide equipment?
 - Mechanics are handlers
- How was mechanic exposed?

1/30/2002 Episode 68

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Criteria Priority Investigation

- Type of episode
 - Human effects
 - Environmental effects
 - Property effects
 - Special incidents



1/30/2002 Episode 69

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Criteria Priority Investigation


- Key phrases to apply to criteria:
 - Alleged to be pesticide related
 - Appears to meet effects criteria

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Human Effects Priority

- Death
- Hospitalization 24-hours with treatment
- 5 or more people have medically diagnosed symptoms



1/30/2002 Episode 71

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Environmental Effects Priority

- Water -
 - Contamination of drinking water supply of 10 households.
- Air -
 - 25 people evacuated.
- Land -
 - \$50,000 clean-up costs.

1/30/2002 Episode 72

dpr Environmental Effects Priority

- Birds -
 - 50 game or migratory birds
 - 500 other birds
- Fish -
 - 500 game fish
 - 5,000 other fish



1/30/2002 Episode 73

dpr Environmental Effects Priority

- Animals
 - Endangered Species -
 - 1 endangered vertebrate
 - Other Animals
 - 5 game or fur-bearers
- Property Damage or Loss -
 - \$50,000



1/30/2002 Episode 74

dpr Special Incidents

- Those occurring in Mexico, other states, tribal lands
 - With effects in California
- Those occurring in California
 - With effects in Mexico, other states, tribal lands
- Aircraft accidents

1/30/2002 Episode 75

dpr Jurisdiction

- CAL OSHA has jurisdiction over non-use related pesticide episodes
- CAL OSHA has jurisdiction over use-related episodes of 3 specific pesticides
- Other agencies (DFG, US EPA)

1/30/2002 Episode 76

dpr Investigation Objectives

- Emphasis on exposure information
- Recreate the picture
- Burden of proof is on the investigator
- We prefer more, rather than less, detail
- Do not assume only one person was involved

1/30/2002 Episode 77

dpr General Information Needed

- People interviewed
 - Injured party
 - Employer or supervisor
 - Eyewitnesses
 - Applicator

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Exercise 3

- How could you improve this report?
- Work book page 5



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Episode

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Exercise 3 Answers

- This is an adequate report of an antimicrobial incident

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Specific Information

- Specific activity
- Prior or concurrent activities
- Product involved

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Specific Information - Product Involved

- List product even if not a pesticide
- Accurate EPA registration number
- Describe how it was used
- Was it properly used?
- Is it a Restricted Material?
- Pesticide Use History

1/30/2002

Episode

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Specific Information - Product Label

- Only include pertinent label pages
- Obtain a delivered label (FAC § 12973)
- Obtain a DPR registered label (FAC § 12973)
- MSDS only if used as evidence

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Exercise 4

- How could you improve this report?
- Work book page 8



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Exercise 4 Answers

- “No compliance or enforcement action taken”
 - But, were there any violations?
- Was there an HQ inspection?
- Were training records checked?

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Specific Information - Exposure

- Describe what happened in detail
- Describe work activities and cultural practices which may impact exposure

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Specific Information - Training

- Attach training records for involved employees
- Evaluate employee's knowledge
- Evaluate the quality of the training
- Was the trainer certified?
- Were the field workers trained?

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Specific Information - Symptoms

- Ask each person
 - Symptoms - onset and duration
 - Time between exposure and symptoms
- Do not assume PIR or DFR are accurate

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Specific Information - Medical Care

- Check for medical supervision
- Was employee taken for medical treatment
- Time between symptoms and medical treatment

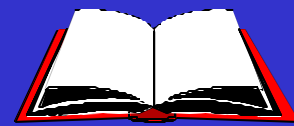
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Exercise 5

- How could you improve this report?
- Work book page 12



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Episode

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Exercise 5 Answers

- Who was interviewed?
- Did the field worker enter the field?
- Need an application history (60 days), more than just the last application
- Complete a dermatitis form
- Complete HQ inspection form
- Was the field worker trained?
- Who took him to the doctor?

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Episode

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Specific Information - Medical Records

- Get form signed at time of interview
- Medical records are required for priorities
- Non-priority episodes
 - Not required but sometimes provide critical information
 - Cholinesterase tests - baseline and post-exposure
- For help obtaining medical records call WH&S

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Specific Information

- Number of days disabled or hospitalized

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Episode

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Specific Information

- Give specific details of:
 - Application method
 - Equipment used

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Episode

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Specific Information - PPE

- What does label require?
- What do regulations require?
- What was provided?
- What did the employee wear?

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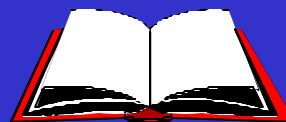
Episode

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Exercise 6

- How would you improve this report?
- Work book page 15



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Exercise 6 Answers

- Did the “Safety glasses” have brow protection? 3CCR § 6738 (b) (2) (A)
- Violation of 3CCR § 6726(c)
Employer shall ensure employee is taken to a doctor.

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Specific Information

- Decontamination
- What is required?
- What was provided?

Specific Information - Others Involved

- Ask injured party
- “Was anyone else exposed?”

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99

Specific Information Needed

- Violations
- Enforcement action taken

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Episode

100

Investigative Conclusions

- Acceptable
 - Were there any violations?
 - Causative agent is not a pesticide nor used as one
- Not acceptable
 - Conclusions or personal opinions based on medical evidence

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Episode

101

Field Worker Cluster Illnesses

- Don't assume there is only one worker affected
- Five or more workers affected (priority)
- Field sampling (CAC, ENF, WH&S)
- Interviews (Bilingual questionnaires)
- Use an episode specific questionnaire

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Employee Complaints

- Confidential
- No advanced notice to employer
- Complaint triggers inspections:
 - WPS, use monitoring and records inspections
- Other agencies (Cal/OSHA & DFG)

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103



Citizens Complaints

- Investigate all complaints
 - Did the exposed person(s) seek medical attention?
 - Has the hazardous situation been resolved?
 - Are there any violations?
 - Compliance history

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Consumer Produce Complaints

- Report information to County Health Officer
- Collect produce sample
- Determine origin of produce

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Episode

105



Suicide

- Do not interview attempted suicides
- Get information from other sources
 - Coroner, police, paramedics
 - Doctors

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Episode

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Agricultural Fatalities

- Protocol for Collection of Samples During Investigation of Agricultural Fatalities
 - WH&S Letter 94-5
 - Investigative Techniques Manual page 24
 - Give to the coroner
- Contact WH&S for assistance

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Episode

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Aircraft Mishaps

- Was pilot's judgement or ability affected by pesticide exposure?
- Get pilot's work history
- Get cholinesterase test results
- Determine the probable cause of the crash from interviews and reports

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Illegal residues on crops

- Identify contaminated fields
- Collect samples
- Chain of custody
- Control affected source
- Prohibit harvest
- Consider prohibiting re-entry

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Episode

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Public Disclosure

- Commissioner contacts county counsel
- Governed by California Public Records Act
 - Medical Records
 - Personal identifiers
- Under investigation

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Episode

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TOP TEN REASONS FOR LATE REPORTS

- 6. I didn't take this job to be a pesticide cop
- 7. It's permit season
- 8. Doctor's First Report indicates R/O pesticides
- 9. I already sent it up 3 times. I'll have to make you another copy
- 10. It's only been 119 days

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Episode

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TOP TEN REASONS FOR LATE REPORTS

- 1. El Niño
- 2. Didn't think Roundup® was a pesticide
- 3. It's not an agricultural case
- 4. My Senior didn't tell me I had to do it
- 5. He's in Mexico

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